PESTICIDE ESA NEWS

Washington State Department of Agriculture ✒ Endangered Species Program Newsletter

WSDA seeks information on 7 pesticides

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is seeking technical information on the Washington state application practices for seven pesticides. This fall the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will determine the effects of the following pesticides on salmonids:

1) captan (Captan)
2) ethoprop (Mocap)
3) disulfoton (Di-Syston)
4) chlorthalonil (Bravo, Daconil)
5) fenamiphos (Nemacur)
6) iprodione (Rovral)
7) phosmet (Imidian)

Very specific, local information can benefit Washington agriculture by refining EPA exposure assessments. Providing state-specific data to EPA for effects determinations is one of the key components of the proposed Washington state-initiated plan. WSDA wants to be certain that the information provided to EPA on the Washington state use of these seven chemicals is as timely and accurate as possible.

WSDA is asking manufacturers, crop consultants, growers and others who may apply these pesticides to provide the following information for each of the seven pesticides:

- Each crop treated with the subject pesticide
- Estimated percent acres to which the subject pesticide is applied
- Estimated pounds of the subject pesticide applied per acre
- Total estimated acres to which the pesticide is applied
- Total estimated pounds of the subject pesticide applied per acre

In order to submit the state-specific data to EPA within their timeframe, WSDA asks that the department receive the above-requested information for captan, ethoprop and disulfoton no later than October 22, 2003.

WSDA would like to receive the requested information for chlorthalonil, fenamiphos, iprodione and phosmet no later than October 31, 2003.

For additional information or questions about this request, call the Endangered Species Program at (360) 902-2067 or send an e-mail to **esp@agr.wa.gov**. ✒

WSDA

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QUESTIONS?

For more information about the Endangered Species Program, visit our Web site at **agr.wa.gov/PestFert/EnvResources/EndangSpecies.htm**

WSDA welcomes your input. Please send your comments and questions to the Endangered Species Program

Court to decide interim measures

U.S. District Court Judge John Coughenour will decide which of 54 pesticides should require buffer zones to protect salmonids and how wide those buffer zones should be after EPA and CropLife America were unable to reach agreement with the Washington Toxics Coalition on interim measures.

On August 14, Coughenour gave EPA, agricultural industry intervenors, and the environmental groups who brought the 2001 lawsuit six weeks to draw up plans for interim measures. While the two sides agreed that public health vector control, noxious weed control and pest control programs authorized by National Marine Fisheries Service should be exempt from interim measures, the parties submitted separately proposed plans for buffer zones and restricted urban pesticide use.

No date has been set for Coughenour's final ruling. The order is expected to have the buffer zones in place for the 2004 crop season, identify who is affected by the ruling and explain how they will be notified.

Copies of the respective proposals for injunctive relief and supporting documents may be found under "Related Documents" on the WSDA Endangered Species Program web page at **agr.wa.gov/PestFert/EnvResources/Lawsuit.htm**.

Fish facts: Chinook salmon

The Chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha,* gets its scientific name from the Greek words onkos (hook) and rynchos (nose). *Tshawytscha* is the common name for the species in Siberia and Alaska.

One of eight species of Pacific salmonids, the Chinook, or king salmon, is easily the largest with adults averaging up to 36 inches in length and weighing up to 30 pounds. The record for the largest Chinook salmon is 126 pounds for a fish caught on commercial gear in Alaskan waters.

Chinook Salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Drawing courtesy of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

The Chinook salmon is blue-green on the back and top of the head with silvery sides and white bellies. This salmon also has black spots on the upper half of its body with gray/black mouth coloration. It is very similar in appearance to coho salmon while at sea. Chinook salmon change color to bright red as they mature.

Chinook salmon average 3 to 4 years in the ocean before returning to their natal streams to spawn. Spawning and rearing chinook are found in most of the rivers in this region, with significant runs in the Puget Sound, Columbia River and Rogue River (Oregon).

NOAA Fisheries Service Northeast Fisheries Science Center and Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife contributed to this article.

EDITOR'S NOTE—The sockeye salmon image used in the Pesticide/ESA News banner is a detail from a photograph by Andrew Hendry, Ph.D. Hendry is an associate professor at the Redpath Museum and Department of Biology, McGill University, Quebec, Montreal, Canada.